

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method for updating software in a client environment, the client environment including an updater application, the method comprising:

receiving update information from a stateless update server as part of an update process performed by the updater application in the client environment, the update information identifying one or more available software products, the update information including update instructions, wherein:

the update server does not receive or evaluate information about the client environment, does not make decisions regarding the update process on the client environment, and does not control or monitor the update process on the client environment, and

the update instructions consist entirely of platform-independent instructions for the updater application, the update instructions comprising scheduling instructions that the updater application executes to schedule one or more requests for update information from one or more update servers, user interface instructions that the updater application executes to communicate with a user of the updater application, and manager instructions that the updater application executes to manage the update process;

storing the received update instructions to supersede any previously received update instructions; and

executing the received update instructions in the updater application to manage a software update process to schedule a first request for update information, to interact with the user to identify a first software product, and to retrieve and install the first software product in the client environment.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:
executing update instructions in the client environment to identify suitable software products includes executing instructions to evaluate the client environment.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein:
evaluating the client environment includes identifying software or hardware installed in the client environment.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:
determining in the client environment when to request update information.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein:
the update instructions include scheduling instructions; and
determining in the client environment when to request update information includes executing one or more of the scheduling instructions.
6. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein:
executing update instructions to identify suitable software products includes executing instructions to interpret the update information identifying the available software products.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein:
interpreting the update information includes determining whether new update instructions are required for processing the available software products; and
if new update instructions are required, identifying suitable software products includes retrieving and executing the new update instructions in the client environment.
8. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein:
receiving an input selecting one or more of the suitable software products includes receiving user input selecting one or more of the suitable software products.

9. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein:
the available software products include one or more available software updates; and
executing update instructions in the client environment to identify suitable software products includes executing update instructions to identify one or more of the available software updates as suitable for software in the client environment.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein:
receiving update information in the client environment includes receiving information indicating a version number and/or dates of last modification of each available software update.
11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein:
executing update instructions to identify suitable updates includes executing instructions to identify updates of a software product installed in the client environment.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein:
executing the instructions to identify updates of the installed software product includes executing instructions to identify updates that add optional components to the installed software product.
13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein:
the installed software product has a first version number; and
executing the instructions to identify updates of the installed software product includes executing instructions to identify updates that are operable to update the installed software product from the first to a second version number.
14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein:
the update instructions are executed in the client environment by the updater application, the updater application being associated with one or more software products installed in the client environment; and
executing update instructions to identify suitable updates includes executing update instructions to identify suitable updates that are unrelated to the software products associated with the updater application.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein:
executing the received update instructions includes identifying installers for the selected software updates and retrieving the identified installers; and
installing the received update instructions includes using the retrieved installers to install the received update instructions.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein:
executing the received update instructions to identify installers includes executing instructions to identify a sequence of two or more installers for updating a software product; and
using the retrieved installers includes executing the two or more installer applications for updating the software product in an order defined by the identified sequence.
17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein:
executing the received update instructions to identify installers includes executing instructions to identify dependencies between installer applications for updating the software product.
18. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein:
executing update instructions to identify suitable software products includes executing instructions to specify a user interface for updating software in the client environment.
19. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
presenting a representation of at least a portion of the update information to a user in the specified user interface.
20. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein:
retrieving the selected software products includes retrieving the selected software products as digitally signed data.
21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:
receiving update information includes receiving update instructions as digitally signed data.
23. (Cancelled)
24. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:
caching the update instructions.
25. (Cancelled)
26. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein:
the update instructions are specified in an interpreted computer language.
27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein:
the interpreted computer language is JavaScript or VBScript.
28. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method for updating software in a client environment, the client environment including an updater application configured to update software, the method comprising:
using the updater application to access information in and about the client environment, the information including information about the client environment hardware and software;
using the updater application to access and download one or more platform-independent software updates from a stateless server, where the updates being accessed and downloaded are based on the information about the client environment hardware and software, and where the stateless server does not receive or evaluate information about the client environment, does not make decisions regarding the update process on the client environment, and does not control or monitor the update process on the client environment;
using the updater application to receive one or more platform-independent software updates for one or more software products in the client environment;
using the updater application to download one or more installer applications in the client environment; and

using the updater application to execute the one or more installer applications in an order defined by a sequence to update the one or more software products using the one or more platform-independent software updates, the one or more software products being updated from an earlier version through one or more intermediate versions to a new version in the client environment.

29. (Previously Presented) A software product, tangibly embodied in a machine-readable storage medium, for updating software in a client environment including an updater application, the software product comprising instructions operable to cause one or more data processing apparatus to perform operations comprising:

receiving update information from a stateless update server as part of an update process performed by the updater application in the client environment, the update information identifying one or more available software products, the update information including update instructions, wherein:

the update server does not receive or evaluate information about the client environment, does not make decisions regarding the update process on the client environment, and does not control or monitor the update process on the client environment, and

the update instructions consist entirely of platform-independent instructions for the updater application, the update instructions comprising scheduling instructions that the updater application executes to schedule one or more requests for update information from one or more update servers, user interface instructions that the updater application executes to communicate with a user of the updater application, and manager instructions that the updater application executes to manage the update process;

storing the received update instructions to supersede any previously received update instructions; and

executing the received update instructions in the updater application to manage a software update process to schedule a first request for update information, to interact with the user to identify a first software product, and to retrieve and install the first software product in the client environment.

30. (Original) The software product of claim 29, wherein:
executing update instructions in the client environment to identify suitable software products includes executing instructions to evaluate the client environment.
31. (Original) The software product of claim 30, wherein:
evaluating the client environment includes identifying software or hardware installed in the client environment.
32. (Original) The software product of claim 30, further comprising instructions operable to cause one or more data processing apparatus to perform operations comprising:
determining in the client environment when to request update information.
33. (Original) The software product of claim 32, wherein:
the update instructions include scheduling instructions; and
determining in the client environment when to request update information includes executing one or more of the scheduling instructions.
34. (Original) The software product of claim 30, wherein:
executing update instructions to identify suitable software products includes executing instructions to interpret the update information identifying the available software products.
35. (Original) The software product of claim 34, wherein:
interpreting the update information includes determining whether new update instructions are required for processing the available software products; and
if new update instructions are required, identifying suitable software products includes retrieving and executing the new update instructions in the client environment.
36. (Original) The software product of claim 30, wherein:
receiving an input selecting one or more of the suitable software products includes receiving user input selecting one or more of the suitable software products.

37. (Original) The software product of claim 30, wherein:
the available software products include one or more available software updates; and
executing update instructions in the client environment to identify suitable software products includes executing update instructions to identify one or more of the available software updates as suitable for software in the client environment.
38. (Original) The software product of claim 37, wherein:
receiving update information in the client environment includes receiving information indicating a version number and/or dates of last modification of each available software update.
39. (Original) The software product of claim 37, wherein:
executing update instructions to identify suitable updates includes executing instructions to identify updates of a software product installed in the client environment.
40. (Original) The software product of claim 39, wherein:
executing the instructions to identify updates of the installed software product includes executing instructions to identify updates that add optional components to the installed software product.
41. (Original) The software product of claim 39, wherein:
the installed software product has a first version number; and
executing the instructions to identify updates of the installed software product includes executing instructions to identify updates that are operable to update the installed software product from the first to a second version number.
42. (Previously Presented) The software product of claim 39, wherein:
the update instructions are executed in the client environment by the updater application, the updater application being associated with one or more software products installed in the client environment; and
executing update instructions to identify suitable updates includes executing update instructions to identify suitable updates that are unrelated to the software products associated with the updater application.

43. (Previously Presented) The software product of claim 37, wherein:
executing the received update instructions includes identifying installers for the selected software updates and retrieving the identified installers; and
installing the received update instructions includes using the retrieved installers to install the received update instructions.
44. (Previously Presented) The software product of claim 43, wherein:
executing the received update instructions to identify installers includes executing instructions to identify a sequence of two or more installers for updating a software product; and
using the retrieved installers includes executing the two or more installer applications for updating the software product in an order defined by the identified sequence.
45. (Previously Presented) The software product of claim 44, wherein:
executing the received update instructions to identify installers includes executing instructions to identify dependencies between installer applications for updating the software product.
46. (Original) The software product of claim 30, wherein:
executing update instructions to identify suitable software products includes executing instructions to specify a user interface for updating software in the client environment.
47. (Original) The software product of claim 46, further comprising instructions operable to cause one or more data processing apparatus to perform operations comprising:
presenting a representation of at least a portion of the update information to a user in the specified user interface.
48. (Original) The software product of claim 30, wherein:
retrieving the selected software products includes retrieving the selected software products as digitally signed data.
49. (Cancelled)

50. (Previously Presented) The software product of claim 29, wherein:
receiving update information includes receiving update instructions as digitally signed data.
51. (Cancelled)
52. (Original) The software product of claim 30, further comprising instructions operable to cause one or more data processing apparatus to perform operations comprising:
caching the update instructions.
53. (Cancelled)
54. (Original) The software product of claim 30, wherein:
the update instructions are specified in an interpreted computer language.
55. (Original) The software product of claim 54, wherein:
the interpreted computer language is JavaScript or VBScript.
56. (Previously Presented) A software product, tangibly embodied in a machine-readable storage medium, for updating software in a client environment including an updater application configured to update software, the software product comprising instructions operable to cause one or more data processing apparatus to perform operations comprising:
using the updater application to access information in and about the client environment, the information including information about the client environment hardware and software;
using the updater application to access and download one or more platform-independent software updates from a stateless server, where the updates being accessed and downloaded are based on the information about the client environment hardware and software, and where the stateless server does not receive or evaluate information about the client environment, does not make decisions regarding the update process on the client environment, and does not control or monitor the update process on the client environment;
using the updater application to receive one or more platform-independent software updates for one or more software products in the client environment;

using the updater application to download one or more installer applications in the client environment; and

using the updater application to execute the one or more installer applications in an order defined by a sequence to update the one or more software products using the one or more platform-independent software updates, the one or more software products being updated from an earlier version through one or more intermediate versions to a new version in the client environment.

57. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a processor;

memory storing a computer program product for updating software in a client environment including an updater application, the computer program product including instructions to cause the processor to:

receive update information from a stateless update server as part of an update process performed by the updater application in the client environment, the update information identifying one or more available software products, the update information including update instructions, wherein:

the update server does not receive or evaluate information about the client environment, does not make decisions regarding the update process on the client environment, and does not control or monitor the update process on the client environment, and

the update instructions consist entirely of platform-independent instructions for the updater application, the update instructions comprising scheduling instructions that the updater application executes to schedule one or more requests for update information from one or more update servers, user interface instructions that the updater application executes to communicate with a user of the updater application, and manager instructions that the updater application executes to manage the update process;

store the received update instructions to supersede any previously received update instructions; and

execute the received update instructions in the updater application to manage a software update process to schedule a first request for update information, to interact with the user to

identify a first software product, and to retrieve and install the first software product in the client environment.

58. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 57, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions in the client environment to identify suitable software products include instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to evaluate the client environment.

59. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to evaluate the client environment include instructions to cause the processor to identify software or hardware installed in the client environment.

60. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the computer program product further includes instructions to cause the processor to:

determine in the client environment when to request update information.

61. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 60, wherein:

the update instructions include scheduling instructions; and
instructions to cause the processor to determine in the client environment when to request update information include instructions to cause the processor to execute one or more of the scheduling instructions.

62. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to identify suitable software products include instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to interpret the update information identifying the available software products.

63. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 62, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to interpret the update information include instructions to cause the processor to determine whether new update instructions are required for processing the available software products; and

if new update instructions are required, instructions to cause the processor to identify suitable software products include instructions to cause the processor to retrieve and execute the new update instructions in the client environment.

64. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to receive an input selecting one or more of the suitable software products include instructions to cause the processor to receive user input selecting one or more of the suitable software products.

65. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein:

the available software products include one or more available software updates; and instructions that cause the processor to execute update instructions in the client environment to identify suitable software products include instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to identify one or more of the available software updates as suitable for software in the client environment.

66. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 65, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to receive update information in the client environment include instructions to cause the processor to receive update information indicating a version number and/or dates of last modification of each available software update.

67. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 65, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to identify suitable updates include instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to identify updates of a software product installed in the client environment.

68. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 67, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to execute the update instructions to identify updates of the installed software product include instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to identify updates that add optional components to the installed software product.

69. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 67, wherein:

the installed software product has a first version number; and
instructions to cause the processor to execute the update instructions to identify updates of the installed software product include instructions to cause the processor to execute instructions to identify updates that are operable to update the installed software product from the first to a second version number.

70. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 65, wherein:

the update instructions are executed in the client environment by the updater application, the updater application being associated with one or more software products installed in the client environment; and

instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to identify suitable updates include instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to identify suitable updates that are unrelated to the software products associated with the updater application.

71. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 65, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to execute the received update instructions includes identifying installers for the selected software updates and retrieving the identified installers; and

instructions to cause the processor to install the received update instructions include instructions to cause the processor to use the retrieved installers to install the received update instructions.

72. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 71, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to execute the received update instructions to identify installers include instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to identify a sequence of two or more installers for updating a software product; and

instructions to cause the processor to use the retrieved installers include instructions to cause the processor to execute the two or more installer applications for updating the software product in an order defined by the identified sequence.

73. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 72, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to execute the received update instructions to identify installers include instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to identify dependencies between installer applications for updating the software product.

74. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to identify suitable software products include instructions to cause the processor to execute update instructions to specify a user interface for updating software in the client environment.

75. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 74, wherein the computer program product further includes:

instructions to cause the processor to present a representation of at least a portion of the update information to a user in the specified user interface.

76. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to retrieve the selected software products include instructions to cause the processor to retrieve the selected software products as digitally signed data.

77. (Cancelled)

78. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57, wherein:

instructions to cause the processor to receive update information include instructions to cause the processor to receive update instructions as digitally signed data.

79. (Cancelled)

80. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the computer program further includes:

instructions to cause the processor to cache the update instructions.

81. (Cancelled)

82. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a processor;

memory comprising a computer program product for updating software in a client environment including an updater application configured to update software, the computer program product including instructions to cause the processor to:

use the updater application to access information in and about the client environment, the information including information about the client environment hardware and software;

use the updater application to access and download one or more platform-independent software updates from a stateless server, where the updates being accessed and downloaded are based on the information about the client environment hardware and software, and where the stateless server does not receive or evaluate information about the client environment, does not make decisions regarding the update process on the client environment, and does not control or monitor the update process on the client environment;

use the updater application to receive one or more platform-independent software updates for one or more software products in the client environment;

use the updater application to download one or more installer applications in the client environment; and

use the updater application to execute the one or more installer applications in an order defined by a sequence to update the one or more software products using the one or more

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platform-independent software updates, the one or more software products being updated from an earlier version through one or more intermediate versions to a new version in the client environment.

83-87. (Cancelled)